

***REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING***

**February 4, 2008**

**6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Ronnie Torres called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:00 P.M.  
Roll call taken by Sally G. Garley, City Manager.

***PRESENT:***

Ronnie Torres, Mayor  
David Lopez, Councilor  
Jeff Trembly, Councilor  
Rudy Jaramillo, Councilor  
Terese Ulivarri, Mayor Pro-Tem

***CITY STAFF:***

Sally G. Garley, City Manager  
Audrey Torres, Procurement Specialist  
Mike Chavez, Police Chief

***OTHERS:***

Norman McDonald, P.A., City Attorney  
Jackie Schlotfeldt, VCNB  
Gilbert Tabet, Circle T  
Pat Boyle, Friends of the Library  
George Boyle, Friends of the Library  
Laura Hawes, Friends of the Library  
Donna & John Hernandez, Friends of the Library  
Tami Wiggins, Friends of the Library  
CJ Vissar, Sunrise Bluff  
John A Brown, Self  
Jerah R. Cordova, Our Tomorrow  
Alexis Gutierrez, Student Council Liaison

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Donna Hernandez to lead the pledge of allegiance.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of tonight's agenda. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo so moved to approve as amended. Councilor Jeff Trembly seconds the motion, motion carried.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:***

***Regular Meting: January 7, 2008***

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of the minutes for January 7, 2008. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri so moved to approve the minutes. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo second the motion, motion carried.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:***

***Special Meting: January 28, 2008***

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of the minutes for January 28, 2008. Councilor David Lopez so moved to approve the minutes. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo second the motion, motion carried.

***CITIZENS PETITIONS:***

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item citizen petitions, and asked if there were any citizen petitions: Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri presented Alexis Gutierrez, Student Council Representative to the City Council.

***PRESENTATION OF CHECK FROM FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Donna Hernandez***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to presentation of check from Friends of the Library. Pat Boyle, President of Friends of the Library and Donna Hernandez, Treasurer presented the City of Belen with a check for \$6,200.

Beginning with the raffle for the signed first edition of the Harry Potter Book and continuing with book sales and both the annual sales and summer sales in the park at the Farmers Market and through monies donated by the membership they were pleased to help with the cost of the renovation of the Library. Public Libraries are a proxy for human memory, a container for wisdom containing ideas from long ago and far away, a way to be exposed to opinions and values from other cultures and nations. Public Libraries are the only public agency prepared to help local residents of all ages to achieve a lifetime of learning. We are proud of our library, a place we are proud to use and proud to show to everyone. Beverly McFarland sent her regrets for not attending but with the snow she headed home.

***REPORT ON DUMPSTER PILOT PROGRAM: Numero Uno-Ernie Byers***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a report on dumpster pilot program as presented by Ernie Byers. No one was present to report item was skipped.

***RECOGNITION OF JEFF TREMBLY WHO OBTAINED HIS MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION: Mayor Torres***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recognition of Jeff Trembly who obtained his Municipal Official Certification. Mayor Ronnie Torres advised this was obtained a while back but we did not get the plaque until recently, and presented the plaque to Councilor Jeff Trembly. Mayor Ronnie Torres proceeded to read a letter aloud, a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

Mayor Ronnie Torres noted that Jeff Trembly is the first Certified Municipal Official within the County of Valencia. We are proud that he could take time to do this, congratulations. This course is the only training which teaches elected officials what to do. Anyone can run for office and have no clue of what is expected of you so this steers you in the right direction.

### ***ACTION ITEMS:***

***APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY WORKER TO CONDUCT THE ABSENTEE VOTING IN PERSON AT CITY HALL FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2008 TO FEBRUARY 29, 2008: Sally G. Garley, City Manager***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to approval of a temporary worker to conduct the absentee voting in person at City Hall from February 13 through the 29<sup>th</sup> 2008. City Manager, Sally G. Garley asked for authorization to hire this worker, election clerk, being Ida Gallegos who worked last year, she also advised that both her and Julie Baca would also be available to assist. Mayor Torres asked if there were any questions or comments, if none he so entertains a motion. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo moved to approve as presented. Councilor Jeff Trembly seconds the motion, motion carried.

### ***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:***

#### ***CITY MANAGERS REPORT:***

City Managers report is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

Mayor Ronnie Torres, prior to going to the next agenda item, wished to read a letter aloud, as requested, regarding assistance from the Water Department, the letter thanked the water department for their assistance above and beyond normal duties. This letter was written by Sonya Lawson. A copy of this letter is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. She dropped it by the shop and asked the Mayor to please read it aloud and thank the crew she also said she would write a letter to the editor.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo inserted that many times he has calls from people regarding their water or sewer and that Ralph responds immediately no matter what time it is. He does a tremendous job.

### ***COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres explained to Alexis Gutierrez, Student Council Representative, this was a part of the meeting where City Council gives reports and he will be able to give a report regarding students when he is called upon to do so.

**Councilor David Lopez:** joked with Alexis and let him know that once City Council is done with reports there may be nothing left for him to report. He thanked the Library Friends for all their hard work and efforts on fundraising.

City Council has been working with the state legislature to try and acquire capital outlay funding. We traveled to Santa Fe and took box lunches to senators and representatives, we talked with Representatives Tripp, Barreras and Barella giving them updated information on the capital project outlays we have going on in the City and hopefully get funding to finish some of these projects.

Saturday the Belen Jr. Wrestling team will be wrestling at the state finals at Albuquerque High, there are a lot of kids that work hard to make it to state.

For the apple tree people, there is a tree clinic in Bosque Farms at the BF Church of Christ from 9-12, Hayden Hayes will tell you how to prune your apple trees now in the month of February.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri:** thanked the friends of the library for the hard work and the presentation of the check, it is appreciated.

The Martin Luther King Vigil took place at Anna Becker Park and it was well received. The event seems to grow every year. The positive thing is that it is all for peace and it is all to reflect on your neighbors and do well for each other. We were also fortunate that the weather cooperated that day.

The annual Matanza took place last Saturday and she was able to judge the chicharones and that was the best part.

She attended a Trails meeting at the BLM office in Socorro. There is a push, with committees, five segments going from Albuquerque to Las Cruces and Belen sits in the middle of two of those committees, two regions. She represents from the north to Albuquerque and then now from the south to T or C. She attended the T or C portion of the meeting. It is a walking, horse, bike trail that is going to connect all the way to Las Cruces and hopefully to Taos. It was a “get off the ground” meeting and they have contracted some people to portion out where they feel the trail should go, it will go through some public and private land and a lot of different entities. Our portion starts from the south part of the bridge and goes south. It is off the ground and the Governor is pushing it hard. There are a lot of people who are interested in that connection, so she will keep us posted on the next meeting.

**Mayor Ronnie Torres:** Councilor David Lopez already reported that the Council went up and spoke with legislators in Santa Fe. We did something different, we usually have a dinner, and we have all the legislators come together with us, however due to the fact that everyone cannot be at the same place at the same time we broke off into groups and met individually with legislators to discuss the same issues but at different times.

There are three banners on display that were purchased through the Economic Development through a grant. These banners were displayed at the legislature, the different websites are on the banners one for economic development, chamber of commerce and the City of Belen.

Thanks again to everyone for their help with the Library and congratulation to Jeff on your award and to the MLK Commission for all their volunteering. The library is open and it is beautiful.

**Councilor Jeff Trembly:** lots of stuff is going on, like Councilor Terese advised the Matanza has come and gone again a great asset to the City of Belen. MKL had a nice crowd and it was nice to do something different. Welcome to Alexis. Thanks to friends of the library it is an organization that will do stuff but then they don't ask for something in return. The friends are an asset to the library. Let's hope that the weather is not anything for the police to worry about.

**Councilor Rudy Jaramillo:** Donna and Pat you both work so well together and thanks for all your hard work. Jeff congratulations on your achievement, he knows that a lot of time and hard work goes into that, as Jeff he has about as much time as everyone and it takes a lot of his time to do this. The Matanza has been mentioned, and it has been held to raise scholarship money for our youth for our students. There was a massive amount of people, and to the City employees who were there working, traffic and everything. It was good to see employees out there handling things so efficiently. We never see for ourselves what employees do on a day to day basis until you hear from citizens who either complain or congratulate them. If you ever need anything from our crews they are always there willing to help in any situation, rain or shine.

Welcome to Alexis. There is also another eatery opening here in town go and support them. It is in the spot where Diane's diner was. They are doing well, they are from Grants and it is called El Rancho Restaurant on South Main. The previous owners were doing well it was just hard to get qualified employees to work and it is hard to work all the time, restaurant work is hard work.

Mayor Torres said they have a good breakfast burrito, the flauta plate is delicious-it is a flour tortilla wrapped with some fried shredded beef or chicken and comes with salsa guacamole and sour cream.

**Alexis Gutierrez:** reported the Student Council and Staters traveled to Santa Fe and worked as pages for the senate and helped as much as possible. Next Thursday thru Saturday student council will be attending the annual state conference where they work together with different students learning how to help communities and make schools a better place. He also added that the music program wanted to know how to go about getting donations to get new equipment. They wanted ideas on what to do.

Mayor Ronnie Torres told them they could hold raffles and join the snow queen competition, he would talk later with other ideas, but we could help them help themselves.

***ADJOURNMENT:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo moved to adjourn this meeting. Councilor David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

ss/  
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

ss/  
Sally G. Garley, City Manager